

Howland Wood - Curatorial

Joy, Fred  
[Boston Numismatic Society

1913-1923

Boston, MA]

FRED JOY,  
COUNSELLOR AT LAW,  
95 MILK STREET,

Boston, April 7, 1913.

Mr. Howland Wood,  
Care American Numismatic Society,  
156th St.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Wood:

I purchased on Saturday two pieces of Swedish plate money in very good condition, 1 (one daler) and 1 of the (two daler).

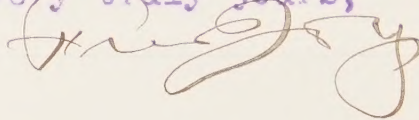
I paid \$10. for both of them. As I never heard of this money before I am writing you to make a little inquiry, to have you tell me why it was coined, and if there is much of it, and if it is of any particular value.

Will you also tell me about the Manila hat money, so called, as I have a chance to pick up two or three pieces of that, *are the pieces rare and of value*. For this information I will be greatly obliged to you.

I read with interest your communication in last Numismatist.

Trusting you are well, I remain

Very truly yours,





April 9th, 1913.

Mr. Fred Joy,  
95 Milk Street,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of April 7th at hand, and glad to know that you are just in the ring and spreading out in numismatics. The Swedish plate money, though not rare, always brings a good price on account of its oddity, large size and always being in demand.

The one daler piece range in price from three to six dollars, and the two daler piece range anywheres from five to twelve dollars according to year and reign, therefore, you paid about right for these. I have forgotten just the details of why they were coined, but I think they were first made in the reign of Christiana in 1652 and continued through all the reigns down to Adolf Frederick, 1768, and range from the half daler up to the eight. The four's and eight's are extremely rare. The reason for their issue was through some false idea of political economy in thinking that copper was the only medium for money, which might work all right if there was no foreign trade. They certainly are one of the most curious phases of numismatics. There had been one or two accounts of this, and when I run across an account I will let you know.

The hat money, so called, comes from Pehang on the Malay Peninsula. It is made of tin, and square with a flat border and a raised center. These are worth anywheres from one dollar to three and a half, and are well worth buying if you can get them within this price. Once they were rare, but today are more plentiful, but on account of their oddity are always in demand.

I am getting along well here and enjoy my work, and am always glad to hear from you, though would like better to see you if ever you get on here.

Very truly,

FRED JOY,  
COUNSELLOR AT LAW,  
95 MILK STREET,

*Boston, April 23, 1913. 191*

Mr. Howland Wood,  
c/o American Numismatic Society,  
Broadway & 156th St., New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Wood:

I was looking at my Swedish plate money last night, and on my one daler piece F.R.S., 1721, there are the initials in script O.B.S. 1206.

Can you tell me what these letters and figures mean, and whether or not they add anything to the value of the piece?

I assure you that I was very glad to see you so well situated, and I certainly wish you every success in your new position.

Very truly yours,





April 28th, 1913.

Fred Joy, Esq.,  
95 Milk Street,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mr. Joy:-

Your letter of the 23rd at hand, and I did not give it an immediate reply because I wanted to look up those initials O. E. S. and 1206 on your plate money. I have looked over several books on this subject, and find no mention whatsoever of these letters. I am, therefore, strongly of the conclusions that they mean nothing because one book I looked through would surely have given these if they had any meaning. You do not say whether these initials are stamped in or engraved on the piece. If engraved, they would certainly have no value; if stamped in, presumably some private initials or mark as you often see on old pennies. The 1206 is a puzzler. It certainly cannot be a date. I am sorry I am not able to help you in a further constructive way about this.

Very truly,

FRED JOY,  
COUNSELLOR AT LAW,  
95 MILK STREET,

*Boston, Oct. 8, 1913. 191*

My dear Wood:

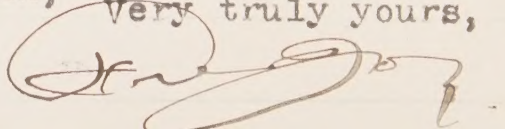
Do Indian relics such as bows, arrows, tomahawks, stone axes and other utensils made by the Indians have any particular value and who are interested in such relics? Why I ask is that recently a large collection of such relics has come to my attention which seems to me can be bought very cheaply and as I have absolutely no knowledge of such things am therefore writing you who know all about such things.

Who are the people interested in such collections or would buy one? There are several books in the collection on Indian History, some of which I understand not even the Boston Public Library has a copy of. It would seem as if these ought to have some value and I would be very greatly obliged to you for any help you may give me in the above inquiry.

Mr. Sears told me that he missed you at the convention in Detroit.

Trusting that you are well and that everything is going to your liking, I remain,

Very truly yours,





October 10th, 1913.

Mr. Fred Joy,  
95 Milk Street,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Joy:-

In reply to your favor of October 8th concerning Indian relics, I can only say you have put up somewhat of a poser. I do not know anyone who collects these. Sears at one time was interested to some extent in this subject. You might interview him; he may know. There are several societies collectors of Indian relics, and there is quite a prominent man somewhere in England. Go to Morey's, and ask to see the Philatelic West, published by Brodstone, of Superior Nebraska, and you can find out from that several collectors and societies in this line. The Museum of Natural History here in New York may be interested, especially in the books.

How is the Boston Numismatic Society getting on, and have you had much of any meetings this year?

I remain, .

Very truly,

FRED JOY,  
COUNSELLOR AT LAW,  
95 MILK STREET,

*Boston*,.....January 5,.....191<sup>4</sup>.

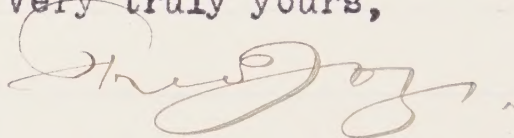
Friend Wood:

Was there a shilling coined in the  
time of Henry the 7th, having his likeness on  
same?

For this information I would be  
obliged to you. We are planning to have our  
annual meeting sometime next month and can't you  
arrange to come over and talk to us.

Trusting that you are well, and that  
everything is going to your liking, I remain,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred Joy", written in dark ink.



January 6, 1914

Mr. Fred Joy  
95 Milk St.,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Joy:

The portrait on the shilling of Henry VII, is supposed to be a likeness of that monarch. It is a side view. A very similar portrait, appeared on a coin of Henry VIII, and a fine likeness of this latter monarch, appeared, showing a front face portrait.

Before the time of Henry VII, there cannot really be said, to have been any portrait.

I very much doubt, if I can get to Boston next week, as I will have an exhibition on my hands, If I can come up however, I will try to do so. Trusting you are well, I remain,

Very truly yours,

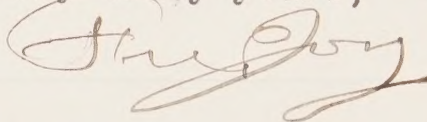
FRED JOY,  
COUNSELLOR AT LAW,  
95 MILK STREET,

*Boston,.....January 7,.....1914.*

Friend Wood:

I am in receipt of yours of yesterday and thank you for the information there given me. I am afraid I did not make it clear to you in reference to the time of holding our annual meeting. We will not have it until sometime in February probably, and we would be glad to have you present at that meeting, to which you will be invited and perhaps you can then arrange to come.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred Joy", written in dark ink.



FRED JOY,  
COUNSELLOR AT LAW,  
95 MILK STREET,

*Boston,.....August 14th.....1916*

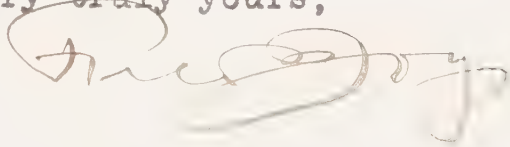
Mr. Howland Wood,  
c/o American Numismatic Society,  
156th St. & Broadway,  
New York, N.Y.

Friend Howland.

I am enclosing three pieces which belong to an old lady in my neighborhood and will inquire if the key piece is genuine and if so what is its value. Also the Chinese piece as I never saw one having such a large hole and the little brass piece whatever it may be. For any information which you may give me about these pieces I will be greatly obliged to you.

Trusting that you are well, I remain,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred Joy", written in dark ink.

August 15, 1916.

Mr. Fred Joy,

95 Milk Street,

Boston, Mass.

Dear Fred:

Your letter at hand and herewith are my remarks on the three coins.

The large piece, known as a pu piece, is genuine and is in much better condition than the average found. It, however, is not rare. It was made by Yang wang in 7 A.D. so that the information on the paper was about right. It is worth from seventy-five cents to a dollar. The other coin with the large square hole is Chinese also, and is known as the lu tebu piece, or lu tebu. It was made between the years 300 B.C. and 500 A.D. and is still very common, being worth not over five cents.

The little brass piece is nothing at all. It is known as a Nuremberg counter, used for a tally in card games.

Trusting you are well and adding to your collection, believe me, .

Very sincerely yours,



FRED JOY,  
COUNSELLOR AT LAW,  
95 MILK STREET,

*Boston, Mass., August 27, 191*

Mr. Howland Wood,  
c/o N. Y. Numismatic Society,  
155th Street, Broadway, N. Y.

Friend Howland:

I am sending you by this mail one of the bronze medals commemorating the opening of the Cape Cod Canal. As I told you at Springfield, three of these medals were made in gold, one for the President, one for our Governor, and one for August Belmont. Twenty-five were struck in silver for private distribution and quite a number in bronze to be sold to the public.

The medals were engraved by their engraver, O. Uhlmann for Reed & Barton, silversmiths of Fifth Ave. New York <sup>and made</sup> at their factory at Taunton, Mass.

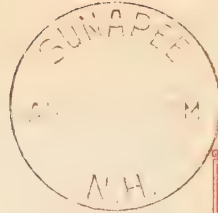
Very truly yours,

*Fred Joy*

only 2 in gold and 24 in  
silver were ~~stock~~ of the  
Cape of Good Hope and not  
3 and 25 as I wrote  
you.

Very  
yours





Mr. Howard Wood  
of N. Y. Museum at Fair  
155 St. & Broadway  
New York. N.Y.

August 31st, 1914.

Mr. Fred Joy,  
95 Milk Street,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Joy:-

Your letter, post card and package containing the Cape Cod medal came duly to hand. An official acknowledgment will be sent to you in the course of a few days. I personally want to thank you very much for sending this.

I was so pressed for time when in Boston I did not have a chance to come in to see you.

I located a satisfactory biography of the late Mr. Crosby in one of the Cambridge papers.

As far as socialability went and General Good Fellowship, the Springfield Convention was far in ahead the best one we have ever had.

I remain,

Very truly,



**FRED JOY,**  
COUNSELLOR AT LAW,  
95 MILK STREET,

*Boston,.....April.....21st.....1917*

Mr. Howland Wood,  
American Numismatic Society,  
New York, N. Y.

Friend Howland:

At a meeting of the members of the  
Boston Numismatic Society held Wednesday  
evening, it was voted that the society make  
a gift of \$15.00 to your society, the same  
to be used for the purchase of books for  
your library, and I am herein enclosing my  
check, as Treasurer of the Boston Numismatic  
Society, to carry out that vote.

Trusting that you are well, and with  
my kindest regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,



Treasurer

April 27, 1917.

Mr. Fred Joy  
95 Milk Street,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Joy:-

I want to thank the Boston Numismatic Society personally for the interest they have shown in our organization by the donation of \$15.00 for the purchase of books for our library. We are doing our best here to do good work, but like so many institutions, especially growing ones where they are branching out in so many endeavors, we are always hard up. The country at large is beginning to appreciate what we stand for and each year we are giving more services, information etc., than the previous year.

I was sorry not to have been able to get to the Dinner the other evening but I had one ~~abbeddadd~~ for the same evening. Sears was in yesterday and said that he was more than repaid for dropping in by a discovery that he made here. We certainly were repaid by having him come up here as we did not appreciate the rarity we had. I will keep the identity of this piece a mystery so as not to rob Sears of a good story. Ask him about it when you see him.

Herewith is my check for \$2.00 for my dues to the Boston Numismatic Society.

Yours very truly,



November 7th, 1918.

Mr. Fred Joy,  
95 Milk Street,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Joy:-

Mr. Wyman, my assistant, has just informed me that you would like to become a member of our Society. It would give me great pleasure to propose your name, and I am herewith sending you an application card. We have doubled our associate membership during the past year, and hope when things settle down again to pursue a decidedly progressive campaign. Just at the present time we are badly crippled as nearly all of our staff have gone.

Trusting you are well, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Curator.



November 9th, 1918.

Mr. Fred Joy,  
95 Milk Street,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Joy:-

Your application for membership will date from January 1st, 1919, so you might as well send it in now.

New York certainly had a wild time the other day, and all the ship builders continued celebrating yesterday and paraded all around New York. Everybody regrets that the fake news got out, and it really is too bad.

Trusting to hear from you, I remain,

Very truly yours,

FRED JOY  
COUNSELLOR AT LAW  
95 MILK STREET

Boston, Mass. Nov. 11, 1918

Mr. Howland Wood,  
c/o American Numismatic Society,  
Broadway at 156th Street,  
New York, N. Y.

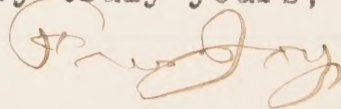
Friend Howland:-

I am in receipt of yours of  
Saturday and am herein enclosing my  
application for membership in your society,  
which I trust will meet with favorable  
action.

If your celebration over in New  
York on Thursday was a fake, we are having  
the real thing here this morning. Pande-  
monium is let loose, and it could not be  
for a better cause.

With my kindest regards, believe  
me,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred Joy", written in dark ink.



February 13th, 1923

Fred Joy, Esq.  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Joy:

In reply to your card of February 10th, the first portrait of an English king on the coinage was during the reign of Henry VII, at which time they broke away from the front face and placed again profiles on the coins. This was in 1504, and shillings, groats, half-groats and pennies were struck. The groat equals 4 pence and, therefore, is one-third of a shilling.

I understand that Dr. Storer has gone to Europe for a while; I trust that he will have a good time.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E